



May 28, 2014

**Board of
Supervisors**



Paul Toot
Chair



Rick Sanders
Vice-Chair



Wayne Clinton

Story County, Iowa

900 6th Street
Nevada, Iowa 50201

Our Story

Story County Community Life Program

The Story County Community Life Program (CLP) is a county operated program offering community based services to adults with mental illness, intellectual disabilities, brain injuries, and other developmental disabilities. Services offered include residential, vocational, and day services.

The realities of the State of Iowa redesigning the mental health funding system into a regional model which resulted in the creation of the Central Iowa Community Services (CICS) Region, which includes Story County, necessitates a comprehensive evaluation of the path forward in continuing provision of those services in Story County. That evaluation, led by the CICS Region is ongoing with recommendations expected later in 2014. Ultimately, the impact on the Community Life Program (CLP) is not clear, but the Board of Supervisors has repeatedly underscored that continuation of all core services currently provided by CLP is vital. Additionally, every effort must be made to facilitate any necessary changes in a way that minimizes any disruptions, in the same way that our move from the Richmond Center to Eyerly Ball was handled.

To that end, the Board of Supervisors is committed to:

- Keeping services to clients paramount;
- Collaborating with CICS to implement their future recommendations with minimal impact to clients;
- Working with CLP Leadership to keep staff fully informed throughout the process;
- Utilizing General Fund dollars if necessary to maintain CLP operations through any transition in provision of services.

It is my understanding that a public forum will be planned for later this year in order to provide information about the consultant report, plans to move forward, and an opportunity for input. The reality is that Iowa's redesign of mental health funding has, and will continue to impact Story County, but we will endeavor to seek solutions that enhance the future of services in Story County. As always, if you have questions please call me or Paul Toot or Wayne Clinton.

-Rick Sanders, Vice Chair
Board of Supervisors

Visit us online at

www.storycountyiowa.gov

Elected Officials



Treasurer
Renee Twedt



Recorder
Sue Vande Kamp



Sheriff
Paul Fitzgerald



County Attorney
Stephen Holmes



Auditor
Lucy Martin

Passport Report Cards

Susan L Vande Kamp—Story County Recorder & Registrar of Vital Records



Twenty years ago this month, the Recorder's office began accepting applications for passports. Prior to 1994, the clerks of court assisted local citizens by processing passport applications. When the court system divested itself of this service, most county recorders in Iowa became passport agents to ensure that our constituents would continue to receive this local service. At that time, the regional director from New Orleans spent several days in Des Moines training recorders and their staffs, and all employees in this office were approved to accept applications.

As you all know, security procedures changed for almost everyone in the years following 9/11. Several years ago we were notified of modifications being made to the application procedure. Passport Services, which falls under the oversight of the U.S. Department of State, had determined that recorders' offices across the country that maintained birth records in addition to acting as acceptance agents were considered "dual facilities" and could not continue to process passport applications without making significant changes in their office procedures. To prevent fraud, employees that act as passport acceptance agents are not allowed access to any birth records or the safety paper used to issue certified copies, and employees that have access to birth records may not assist customers in their application for a passport. Since my name is stamped on certified copies of vital records, I cannot be a passport agent. Deputies Jim Cheek and Connie Soesbe are the two passport agents for this office.

Our office has been inspected annually for the last three years by an employee of the Department of State. The initial inspection was held to determine whether or not our plans for separation of duties would be approved. Jim and Connie were questioned pretty thoroughly about the forms and procedures, and about two months later, we learned that we had been approved to continue as a passport facility. The last two years we have actually received a "report card" which grades us on our knowledge and procedures. Our annual inspection was held on May 8. Jim spent about 45 minutes with the inspector, going through the files and answering questions. In my exit interview with her, I was told that rarely, if ever, do they ever see a facility as well run as ours. When I received the "report card" a few days later, we were given a perfect score for the second year in a row. A special thanks goes out to both Jim and Connie for their hard work and diligent oversight of the Passport Department!



Private Well Water Testing, Plugging, and Rehabilitation

The Story County Environmental Health Department recommends annual private well water testing for bacteria and nitrates. Through the Iowa Grants to Counties Program, the Story County Environmental Health Department may have funds available to conduct such testing, update/reconstruct older wells that may have some easily corrected problems, or plug unused wells. Please contact our department for more information regarding Grants to Counties funding.

STORY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.storycountyiowa.gov/eh

515.382.7240

Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm



GIS Coordinator works with Local Schools



Matt Boeck, Story County GIS Coordinator, worked with students from the Collins-Maxwell School District earlier this spring. Fourth and fifth grade elementary students, as part of the talented and gifted (TAG) program in the school district, created maps for the community of Collins demonstrating home in town with basements and those homes in town without a basement.

The project was part of the Lego League competition, for which this year's theme dealt with natural disasters. After the students completed a windshield survey of the community to identify on maps structures with (or without) basements, Matt was able to demonstrate to the class how to color-code the maps to show the information being collected in a visual manner. After the work was finalized and competition was completed, the class took it a step further and presented to the Collins City Council members.

“Working with our local school districts and identifying the powerful images that can be developed using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), goes hand-in-hand with the goals of Story County’s mapping programs and also matches with the State-wide STEM initiative,” Matt shared. “The opportunity to work with the Collins-Maxwell school children was extremely rewarding, and I hope to be able to build on this project, as well as others, in the future and with all the school districts in Story County.

To find out more about GIS in Story County, visit the Story County homepage at www.storycountyiowa.gov, and under “Departments”, select Geographic Information Systems.

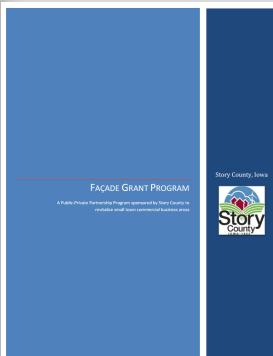
What Is GIS? GIS (Geographic Information Systems) is a collection of computer hardware, software, and geographic data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information. GIS organizes geographic data as vector or raster layers on a map. Each layer has an associated database containing attributes for every graphic feature. This makes attribute queries and spatial queries very powerful.

Visit us online at **www.storycountyiowa.gov**



New Motor Graders in Story County

Story County had been using ten motor graders and three spares for secondary roads. We recently traded in our entire motor grader fleet except for our two newest machines and leased ten new motor graders for a five year period. Historically, we have been purchasing one motor grader per year at \$290,000. By switching to a lease program, our annual lease cost is now only \$260,000 and all ten machines will be under full warranty for the life of the lease and this program should be sustainable in the future. This should eliminate most of our motor grader repair costs and will also save us money on other items such as tires, which cost over \$1000 per tire. A newer fleet will lead to more production and less down time. We were also able to eliminate one of our spare motor graders since the new machines will be more reliable. As an added bonus, all of our motor graders now have the new joystick controls without a steering wheel. These controls are much more ergonomic and since all of the motor graders are identical, every operator can run any of the motor graders in the county. In the end, this program should increase our level of service on secondary roads while decreasing our annual costs.



Façade Grant Program Underway

In January 2014, the Story County Board of Supervisors approved the new Façade Grant Program for communities less than 2,000 persons (according to the 2010 US Census). The Story County Façade Improvement Grant Program provides financial assistance to the city governments, working in collaboration with private commercial businesses within their city limits, for façade improvements. The County will award a one-time reimbursement grant up to 20% or not more than \$10,000 towards the total project costs of façade improvements. The City is required to provide matching funds equal to or greater than the maximum provided by the County. The matching funds can be either direct funds or in-kind. Total disbursement by the County in 2014 will be \$10,000. The purpose of the program is to support the revitalization of business districts in small towns by stimulating private investments that enhance the appearance of buildings and properties.

In March, the Board of Supervisors approved applications from the City of Zealring for façade improvements and the City of Collins for a façade painting project. Projects are required to be completed in early June.



Visit us online at www.storycountyiowa.gov

Chance to WIN a
\$1 MILLION
dollar prize

Make a
\$5K putt



GOLF TOURNAMENT

June 14, 2014

Check-In at 7:30am - Start at 9:00am



**Ames Golf &
Country Club**

5752 George Washington Carver Ave.
Ames, IA 50010 • (515) 232-8334

\$75 entry fee
per person

[price includes: 18 holes of golf, cart, tee shirt,
breakfast, meal after golf, door prizes, and fun!]

**4 Person Best Shot
18 Hole Fundraiser**

Email: storycountyfreedomflight@gmail.com
to reserve a spot or to become a sponsor

**Help the Story County Freedom Flight raise
money to honor WWII, Korean, and Vietnam Veterans
by sending them to Washington D.C. to visit their memorials.**

If you would like to know more about the
Story County Freedom Flight visit our
website at www.storycountyfreedomflight.org

*All proceeds go toward the 2014 Story County Freedom Flight.



This is not
a
Total Shot.

Visit us online at **www.storycountyiowa.gov**



Sign-Up for Notify Me!

Page 6

Just follow the instructions below to sign-up for “Notify Me” on our website. Once you do, you will receive bid postings, alerts, agendas, news flash, and much more from Story County.

NOTIFY ME INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1: Go to the website: www.storycountyiowa.gov

STEP 2: Click on ‘Notify Me’ in the Citizen Help Center



STEP 3: Enter your email address in the appropriate box and select either ‘text’ or ‘email’ notification by clicking on the appropriate symbol next to each type of alert.

Home > Notify Me

Notify Me Available Lists

1. Type your email address in the box and select Sign In.
2. If you want to receive text messages enter your phone number and select Save.
3. To subscribe or unsubscribe click [SMS icon] and/or [Email icon] next to the lists to which you wish to subscribe/unsubscribe.

Please sign in to subscribe, unsubscribe, or manage your subscriptions

Email Address

Notify Me

METHOD	LIST NAME	DESCRIPTION
[SMS icon] [Email icon]	Sheriff's Press Releases	Media releases from the Story County Sheriff.

Alert Center

METHOD	LIST NAME	DESCRIPTION
[SMS icon] [Email icon]	Emergency Alerts	Be notified of important county-wide alerts that could affect your personal safety or property.
[SMS icon] [Email icon]	Holidays & Closures	Scheduled holidays & closures for Story County Government offices.
[SMS icon] [Email icon]	Severe Weather Warning	Click here to be notified on severe weather in the Story County area.
[SMS icon] [Email icon]	Treasurer's Office Alerts	Be notified of important Property Tax and Motor Vehicle dates and information.

Bid Postings

STEP 4: You will receive a verification email after completing these steps. Click on the link in this email to complete the process.

Visit us online at www.storycountyiowa.gov

Iowa State University, Ames Chamber of Commerce, and Story County Businesses and Communities Partnership Culminates at the ISU College of Human Sciences Entrepreneurship Showcase

Drew Kamp

*Director of Story County Community Outreach
Director of Government Relations*



A partnership between Iowa State University College of Human Sciences, the Iowa Retail Initiative, the Ames Chamber of Commerce, and five small businesses and two communities within Story County, was on full display the evening of Thursday, May 1, 2014 at Iowa State College of Human Science's LeBaron Hall. The 2014 College of Human Sciences Entrepreneurship Showcase provided an opportunity for over one hundred students to present projects they worked on throughout the spring semester.

Of these students, five groups in Dr. Linda Niehm's Entrepreneurship in Human Sciences worked with Story County small businesses, and another two groups provided community visioning services to two Story County communities. The five businesses receiving retail, business, and marketing analysis and assistance were: 1) The Collins Wellness Center; 2) Reed-Niland Corner in Colo; 3) The Consignment Gallery in Gilbert; 4) JB Knacker in Gilbert; and 5) Moose on the Loose in Huxley. The City of Slater and the City of Collins received community visioning assistance from graduate students in Dr. Jessica Hurst's Industry Applications in Merchandising and Management course.

In gathering information to perform their projects, Dr. Niehm's students met with business owners, community and political leaders, and engaged citizens within their respective community's during three separate visits. The first visit was an information gathering phase in which they met with community leaders and the business owners to get a clear picture of the communities in which each business operates, as well as what the business owners wants and needs were and how they could best help achieve them. The second meeting allowed the students to present their recommendations to the business owners and receive critical feedback to include in their final projects. The third meeting gave the students the opportunity to present their project and recommendations to the business owner and local leaders and receive minor edits to include in their final project.

The graduate students in Dr. Hurst's class took a similar, but slightly different approach. They too visited the communities of Collins of Slater early in the process to gather essential information and receive clear instruction from community leaders, and also presented their project to those same community leaders, but did not have a set second meeting, they instead had more extensive interaction between visits to ensure the goals and objectives provided them were being met and recommendations and guidance were being consistently provided.

The final product that each business and community received not only met the goals and objectives outlined during the first visit, it provided clear recommendations and as well as an explanation of how to achieve each recommendation in the most efficient manner possible. The exhaustive nature of the analyses, while maintaining a level of simplicity, allowed each recommendation to be easily implemented, and was a definite plus and greatly appreciated by the participating community leaders and business owners.

Another critical piece of this project is bringing key Iowa State resources into rural Story County and fostering the development of a relationship between the University, the Ames Chamber of Commerce, and Story County communities. With the vast resources available at ISU, the Ames Chamber, and Story County, this partnership is one that should prove beneficial for years to come.

As a service to rural communities, it is also important to mention that these services were provided nearly free of charge to the businesses and communities. A grant from Iowa State Extension and Outreach largely funds the Iowa Retail Initiative and allows Dr. Niehm, Dr. Hurst, and several of their colleagues to provide this critical assistance at a minimal cost to participants.

In conclusion, as someone who was there every step of the way, it was great to see such strong collaboration between the students, faculty, business owners, and community leaders throughout the process. The students really bought into the entire process and understood that the five business owners have much time and money invested in their business and that the community leaders of Collins and Slater truly are the lifeblood of their respective community. All the students clearly had a deep respect for, and learned a lot from, each business owner and community leader they interacted with, making this partnership a win-win situation for all parties involved.

Visit us online at **www.storycountyiowa.gov**